



Library.

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF HALTWHISTLE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
J. M. McEWAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

and of

THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1965

STAFF :

J. M. McEWAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Public Health Department,
Council Offices, Haltwhistle.
Telephone : Haltwhistle 351.

{ *Medical
Officer
of Health.*

W. FORSTER, M.A.P.H.I.
Appointed 1st December, 1965.

{ *Public
Health
Inspector.*

W. J. BLACK, M.A.P.H.I.
Resigned 1st September, 1965.

Mrs. E. THOMPSON - - - *Clerk Typist*

*To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council
of Haltwhistle :*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1965.

There has been no material change in circumstances in the District, and any change may be expected to be gradual. There are considerable difficulties in maintaining the population and improving the amenities in such a large Rural District where the rateable value is not high and, apart from the town of Haltwhistle, small communities predominate. The nature of the country makes communications difficult, especially in winter, and makes the extension of mains water and modern sewage facilities costly and in some cases prohibitive. The immediate solution is perhaps the further concentration of houses in Haltwhistle, which already contains almost half the population and much of the employment, as well as being the administrative and social centre of the District. This policy appears to be favoured by the County Planning Committee, who are opposed to the building of Council houses at Greenhead. The long-term solution will probably lie in the creation of larger units of Local Government, but even with re-organisation, continued progress will depend on representatives with local knowledge and interest.

The problems that cause recurrent concern are the future of the Haltwhistle—Alston railway and the employment situation. The railway line is of great value to those residing elsewhere and working in Haltwhistle, as in severe weather the road is not an adequate alternative. Bardon Mill Colliery is now scheduled for closure and unless alternative employment can be arranged locally in advance further depopulation will occur. The Council take an active interest in both problems and hope to attract new industry as they have already done successfully on a previous occasion.

There was a decrease of 60 in the population compared with 1964. There were 10 more deaths than births, and the birth rate was rather below and the death rate rather above the national average. These figures suggest an ageing and slowly diminishing population, but too much significance need not be attached to one year in isolation. There were no infant deaths, a unique feature which cannot but cause satisfaction. The causes of death call for no special comment being in the main the degenerative diseases, and almost half the deaths occurred in people over 75.

A case of paratyphoid fever was notified in a resident who acquired the disease while on holiday. As the patient was employed in a works canteen a large number of people were at risk, but fortunately extensive investigation brought no case in a contact to light. There were 15 notifications of scarlet fever, occurring as isolated cases and causing no public health problem. There were again many notifications of measles for the third successive year. A protective vaccine is now available, but will probably be reserved for special cases. Immunisation against the once common and dangerous diseases of diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis, and against tetanus, continues at a very high level, and has altered the whole pattern of infectious disease. It is pleasing to report that there was no case of tuberculosis, and the year's statistics show a very satisfactory state of health in the District.

Only one house was built during the year, and that privately. Approval was however awaited for 88 Council houses in Haltwhistle, and this has now been given. They will do much to reduce the present housing list directly, and also indirectly, by freeing some houses privately let, and it is hoped that by transfer, better use can be made of under occupied Council houses. The Council have also bought 5 houses in Haltwhistle and will improve them. A further four bungalows for old people are under construction, through the generosity of Mrs. M. A. Smith, and will further ease the housing situation. Elsewhere than in Haltwhistle there are no plans for housing, but the modernisation of older property is encouraged by the provision of improvement grants. 289 properties have now been improved with discretionary grants and a further 76 with standard grants, and the system of Grants is of the greatest value in a Rural District where the extension of useful life of older houses is more practicable than their replacement by Council houses.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, as statutory water undertakers, provide a supply that is satisfactory in quality and quantity. Private and proposed supplies remain the responsibility of the Council. Regular water sampling is undertaken by both authorities in their respective spheres, and results are exchanged. Any remedial action is undertaken by the appropriate authority. No chemical analysis was made by the Council during the year, but the Company undertake this regularly and it is known that the fluoride content is low at 0.1 to 0.2 parts per million and

that plumbo-solvency is not a problem. The figures required as to the number of houses in parishes supplied with water direct from the mains is contained elsewhere in the Report.

The proposed sewerage and sewage disposal schemes for the Bardon Mill and Henshaw area, and the Greenhead and Bankfoot area, were submitted to the Ministry during the year and approved, but construction must await the removal of financial restrictions on capital works. These schemes have been under consideration for a long time, as in the first instance they could not be undertaken until there was an adequate water supply, and then their preparation was difficult. The position in these areas is most unsatisfactory, as there is an increasing distaste on the part of householders and the refuse collection staff to the continued use of pail privies, and many of the septic tanks used as an alternative are unsatisfactory through age. Proposed improvements to property are being held up, while in some cases modern appliances have been installed and cannot be used. In view of these circumstances the Council have asked that the financial restrictions should be removed in respect of these schemes. Extensions to the works at Haltwhistle will soon be required, and a scheme for Harpertown and Slaggyford is being considered. Elsewhere the disposal facilities are adequate.

There is one common lodging house in Haltwhistle, which is kept under regular supervision and is satisfactorily maintained and administered.

I have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the interest they show in the work of the Department and the support they give. I have to record the continued co-operation and help given by the Clerk and other Officers. Mr. W. J. Black resigned his post as Public Health Inspector after seven years of satisfactory work and Mr. W. Forster who already has wide experience in the Rural District of Hexham was appointed in his place. To them, and to the staff of the Health Department my thanks are due for their efficiency and courtesy.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. McEWAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the Haltwhistle Rural District is 96,333 acres. The only town is Haltwhistle, the other centres of population being villages.

The estimated population for 1965 is 6,800, which is a decrease of 60 from 1964.

The number of inhabited houses on 31st December, 1965, was 2,342.

The rateable value at 31st March, 1965, is £169,038.

The sum represented by a penny rate at 31st March, 1965, is £642 3s. 6d.

The following is a list of persons employed in various industries in the district.

	<i>Males and Females over 15 years of age</i>
Mining and Quarrying	445
Paint, Varnish, Chemical and other Manufactures	798
Distributive Trades	268
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing ..	152
National and Local Government ..	70
Professional Services	220
Building Trades	162
Transport and Garages	151
Miscellaneous	95

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The population of the Haltwhistle Rural District, estimated at 30th June, 1965, was 6,800.

Birth Rate

There were 95 live births, giving a birth rate of 16.06 per 1,000 population when the comparability factor is applied. It compares with 18.1 per 1,000 population for all England and Wales.

Of the total of 95 live births, 4 were illegitimate. There were 2 still-births, compared with 2 in 1964.

Infantile Mortality

There were no deaths of infants under one year. The infant mortality rate is Nil per 1,000 live births, the rate for England and Wales being 19.0 per 1,000.

General Death Rate

A total of 105 deaths occurred during 1965, an increase of 10 on 1964. When comparability factor is applied, the death rate is 14.35 per 1,000 population. The figures for all England and Wales is 11.5 per 1,000.

15 deaths were due to Cancer, compared with 11 in 1964.

VITAL STATISTICS SUMMARY

Live Births :

Number	..	..	..	..	..	..	95
Corrected Rate per 1,000 population	..	..					16.06

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 4.31

Stillbirths :

Number	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	..	..					20.62

Total Live and Still Births 97

Infant Deaths (deaths under one year) Nil

Infant Mortality Rates :

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births .. Nil

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births Nil

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births Nil

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) Nil

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) Nil

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) Nil

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths Nil

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births Nil

HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

(a) HALTWHISTLE WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

Surgeon : Mr. C. I. Raeburn, F.R.C.S. (Ed.)

Gynaecologist : Mr. D. T. Barber, F.R.C.S.

Physician : Dr. J. B. Ryder.

Matron : Miss E. Robson.

This hospital, which includes a modern Maternity Wing, is under the Management of the Hexham and District Management Committee.

The Local House Committee—Chairman, Mr. G. E. Dent, meets on the first Friday of alternate months.

(i) *X-Ray Department.*

X-Ray examinations are carried out Thursdays at 1-30 p.m.

Consultant Radiologist :—Dr. Walker.

(ii) *Gynaecologist Out-Patient Department.*

First Tuesday every month at 11-30 a.m.

(iii) *Surgical Out-Patient Department.*

Wednesdays, 12 noon.

(iv) *Medical Out-Patient Department.*

Alternate Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

(b) HEXHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Accommodation at this hospital is available for patients from this district. A number of medical cases for detailed investigation and some major emergency surgical cases are referred there and such special facilities as Physiotherapy are available.

(c) CARLISLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

WALKERGATE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL,
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

Cases of infectious disease requiring In-patient treatment are accommodated at the above hospitals.

Tuberculosis Service

(a) CHEST CLINICS

Hexham General Hospital — Tuesdays from 9 a.m.
Tuberculosis Officer—Frederic L. Wollaston, M.R.C.S.

Tuesday.. .. 2—4 p.m.

Friday 5—6-30 p.m.

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

(i) *Wooley Sanatorium.*

The standard of treatment at this hospital continues to be exceptionally high, and there is now no waiting list for admission.

(ii) *Stannington Sanatorium.*

25 Children's beds are available.

Midwifery Service

(a) *Ante-Natal Care*

Two clinics per month are held at the Haltwhistle Clinic by the local doctors.

(b) *Haltwhistle Hospital*

The majority of the expectant mothers in the district are confined in the Haltwhistle Hospital.

The services of a visiting Gynaecologist, together with his staff, have proved of great assistance and are also available for emergency work.

Bowmer Bank Hostel, Morpeth, cares for unmarried expectant mothers.

(c) *Domiciliary Service*

Two midwives reside at 1 Bridge Street, Haltwhistle (Telephone 368).

Two cars are provided for the use of the Nurses in attending cases in this extensive district.

Home Help Service

The County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district.

Home Helps are available to householders where such help is required in cases of illness, but priority is given to domiciliary maternity cases.

More and more use is being made of the Service by old people and the chronic sick.

County Orthopaedic Service

The Orthopaedic Clinic for Children is held at Hexham General Hospital every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and at Haltwhistle Child Welfare Clinic every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

An Orthopaedic Surgeon attends on the fourth Tuesday every month at Hexham General Hospital and on the second Wednesday of every month at Haltwhistle Child Welfare Clinic.

Child Welfare Service

Clinics are held at Haltwhistle Clinic every Thursday by the Child Welfare Medical Officer and the Health Visitor.

Clinics are also held at Gilsland and Halton-Lea-Gate every fourth Friday.

School Dental Clinic

Clinics are held every Monday and Thursday, and Friday of alternate weeks at Haltwhistle Clinic. The Dentist visits the various schools in the district.

Dental Officer — Mr. P. S. Hagyard.

Public Health Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory, under the Director, J. H. Hale, is located at the Newcastle General Hospital.

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance service is maintained and run by the members of the St. John's Ambulance Division, for the Northumberland County Council, and members of the Nursing Division act as attendants when required.

During the year 1965, 4,892 cases were handled, made up as follows :—

<i>Cases Transported by Ambulance :</i>				
Road Accidents	..	24	Mileage Covered	.. 752
Other Accidents	..	12	Mileage Covered	.. 345
Invalids	..	339	Mileage Covered	.. 6,243
		<hr/> 375		<hr/> 7,340
<i>Car Sitting Cases</i>		<hr/> 4,517	Mileage Covered	.. 58,681
Total Cases	..	<hr/> 4,892	Total Mileage	.. 66,021

Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths

Registrar : Mrs. F. Robinson.

Office : C.W.S. Building, Main Street,
Haltwhistle.

Hours : Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays :—

11 a.m. to 12 noon.

Thursdays :— 2—3 p.m.

TABLE 1

The following table shows the principal vital mortality rates for the year 1955.65,

YEAR	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	General Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Death Rate from Respiratory T.B. per 1,000 Living
1955	14.56	13.22	39.6	.13
1956	14.27	13.20	30	.13
1957	15.20	12.71	28.57	.00
1958	14.22	10.18	9.51	.00
1959	13.66	12.73	19.42	.00
1960	11.26	13.87	12.19	.00
1961	15.81	13.5	18.35	.00
1962	14.45	13.87	40.4	.00
1963	14.76	13.19	39.6	.68
1964	15.75	13.01	42.55	.68
1965	16.06	14.35	.00	.00

TABLE II.
INFECTIOUS DISEASE

DISEASE	YEAR									
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Small Pox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever ..	29	7	13	25	2	3	1	21	5	15
Whooping Cough ..	9	40	2	—	1	—	—	1	32	—
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Measles ..	15	199	1	8	12	266	—	79	112	96
Pneumonia ..	—	11	—	—	5	2	1	21	8	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
TOTALS ..	54	257	18	34	20	271	2	126	158	118

TABLE IV.
NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

YEAR	Registered Births					Illegitimate Births (included in Registered Births)				
	Live Births		Still Births		Total	Live Births		Still Births		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1955	56	45	1	5	107	1	—	—	—	1
1956	52	46	2	—	100	—	3	—	—	3
1957	51	54	2	1	108	2	3	—	—	5
1958	51	53	1	2	107	1	2	—	—	3
1959	58	45	—	1	104	—	2	—	1	3
1960	42	40	1	2	85	1	3	—	1	5
1961	61	48	1	1	111	4	1	—	—	5
1962	45	54	2	1	102	1	1	—	—	2
1963	61	40	1	—	102	—	3	—	—	3
1964	55	39	1	1	96	2	4	—	—	6
1965	47	48	1	1	97	3	1	—	—	4

TABLE V.
INFANT DEATHS

Deaths of Infants Under 1 year of age.			Deaths of Infants Under 4 weeks of age		
	M.	F.		M.	F.
Legitimate ..	—	—	Legitimate ..	—	—
Illegitimate	—	—	Illegitimate	—	—
	—	—		—	—
	—	—		—	—
	—	—		—	—

TABLE VI.
ANALYSIS OF DEATHS BY CAUSES

CAUSES OF DEATH				1961		1962		1963		1964		1965	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	2	1
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus...	...	...	3	—	5	—	6	1	2	—	1	1
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	2
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	3	6	1	7	4	3	4	—	4	3
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	4
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	8	7	9	12	4	13	7	12	11	16
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	21	6	10	9	15	9	9	7	14	6
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	2	—	—
20.	Other Heart Disease	...	...	6	5	8	3	5	3	3	9	3	6
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	1	4	1	2	1	6	6	1	5	4
22.	Influenza	...	...	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	2	1	—	1	1	—	1	2	2	1
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	3	—	—	—	2	1	1	2	7	1
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	—	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostrate	...	...	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
31.	Congenital Malformations	...	...	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Other Defined and ill-defined disease	...	...	6	1	3	4	2	6	3	5	1	5
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	1	1	1	—	1	—	2	1	1	—
34.	All other Accidents	...	...	1	—	3	4	—	1	1	2	1	—
35.	Suicide	...	...	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
36.	Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES				57	38	52	46	48	48	48	47	53	52

TABLE VII
AGES AT DEATH

				M.	F.	Total
Under 4 weeks	..	..		—	—	—
4 weeks and under 1 year	..			—	—	—
1 — 4 years	..	..		—	1	1
5 — 14	..	..		—	—	—
15 — 24	..	..		—	—	—
25 — 34	..	..		1	—	1
35 — 44	..	..		2	1	3
45 — 54	..	..		2	1	3
55 — 64	..	..		13	9	22
65 — 74	..	..		16	11	27
75 and over	..	..		19	29	48
				53	52	105

REPORT
of the
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
For the Year Ended 31st December, 1965

W. FORSTER,
M.A.P.H.I.

Duties :
Public Health.
Housing
Meat and Foods
Inspection.
Council House
Allocation.
Refuse Collection
and Disposal.

HOUSING

Council House Building

No Council houses were completed during the year.

Tenders for the erection of 88 houses at Flowers Close and Comb Hill, Haltwhistle, were accepted during the year and are awaiting final approval from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

In November, 5 houses at Railway Terrace, Haltwhistle, were purchased, and it is anticipated that a scheme for improving these dwellings will be completed next year.

Four Aged Persons dwellings in Park Road, Haltwhistle, the gift of Mrs. M. A. Smith, are in course of erection and will be completed in the early part of next year.

The total number of houses owned by the Council is now 505.

New Houses Completed During the Year

New Houses completed during the Year.	With State Assistance.	Unaided.	Total
(a) By Local Authority ..	—	—	—
(b) By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
(c) By private persons ..	—	1	1

Council House Applications

At the end of the year there were 202 applications for Council houses, 150 for general purpose houses and 52 for aged persons dwellings.

Families Re-housed during last 7 years :

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
(a) Slum Clearance	4	—	3	1	—	—	—
(b) Without Separate Homes ..	5	9	10	3	3	3	3
(c) With separate Homes ..	10	12	38	13	17	8	11
(d) From Council Houses ..	4	3	15	—	1	1	—
(e) Key Workers.. ..	—	—	—	—	5	1	1
TOTAL	23	24	66	17	26	13	15
Overcrowding Abated ..	9	9	4	8	4	7	5
(Included in above figures)							
No. of Outstanding Applications for Council houses at year end ..	170	177	133	159	178	200	202

FAMILIES REHOUSED DURING 1965

	Aged Persons	Other Classes
(a) Slum Clearance	—	—
(b) Without Separate Homes	1	2
(c) With Separate Homes	3	8
(d) From Council Houses (Living in etc.) ..	—	—
(e) Key Workers	—	1
(f) Exchange of Council House Accommodation	2	10

Slum Clearance

The Council's slum clearance programme is completed. Individual unfit houses will be dealt with as and when the occasion arises.

ACTION WITH REGARD TO UNFIT HOUSES.

Closing and Demolition	<i>No. of Houses</i>
1. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas ..	—
2. Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas (Number of dwellings included above, if any previously reported as “ Closed ” 4) ..	—
3. Houses Closed, not demolished	—
4. Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included above ..	—
Repairs	
<i>Houses made fit</i>	
5. By informal action (Part C.11)	22
6. By owners, following statutory notice (Part C.12 (a) and (b))	—
7. By local authority in default of owners (do.)	—
8. Demolition Orders revoked after reconstruct- ion (Part C.13)	—
<i>Houses patched</i>	
9. Houses in clearance areas still in use at end of year for temporary accommodation (Part D.14, 15)	—
Clearance Programme	
10. Number of unfit houses in clearance prog- ramme remaining to be dealt with at end of year	—

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959

(a) Discretionary Grants		No. of Separate Houses	
Applications submitted to Local Authority ..		17	
Applications rejected		Nil	
Applications approved		17	
Approximate average grant approved per house		£263	
Total number of houses approved for grant since inception of scheme		289	

(b) Standard Grants	During the Year			Total to Date
	L.A. Houses	Private	Total	
Number of houses approved for grant	—	5	5	76
Number of houses provided with :—				
(a) Bath or shower	—	4	4	44
(b) Wash hand basin	—	4	4	64
(c) Hot water supply	—	4	4	48
(d) Water Closet	—	5	5	59
(e) Food Store	—	4	4	40

(c) No. of houses not included above, approved for grants under the Hill Farming & Livestock Rearing Acts, 1946-54	1
--	---

No. of houses improved by grants during last ten years.

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
(a) Discretionary Grants ..	23	26	27	10	20	16	20	16	22	22
(b) Standard Grants ..	—	—	—	—	8	15	24	12	11	5
(c) Ministry of Agriculture Grants ..	7	3	6	6	6	4	1	—	2	1
Total ..	30	29	33	16	34	35	45	28	35	28

Rent Act, 1957

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received during the year.

The Rent Act, 1965

This new Act is in force from 8th December, 1965. It brings in new rights for tenants and landlords and a new way of helping them to agree on fair rents.

The new Act provides for

- (1) Protection against eviction except by Court order.
- (2) Extended security of tenure in respect of unfurnished lettings.
- (3) The Act sets up a new system for regulating rents in unfurnished accommodation, and for fixing reasonable rents for furnished lettings, in addition to giving tenants in this type of accommodation security for up to six months at a time instead of three months.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the district, but since July only one has been in regular use, this accounts for the fact that the number of animals slaughtered is less than for the previous year.

The carcasses of all animals slaughtered have been inspected and stamped in compliance with the Meat Inspection Regulations of 1963. In the absence of the Public Health Inspector, an Inspector from Hexham Rural District has carried out the duties.

532 lbs. of carcase meat and offal were condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year.

Arrangements for the disposal of condemned foodstuffs have been satisfactory.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle exclud'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	141	1	—	323	129	—
Number Inspected	141	1	—	323	129	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</i>						
Whole Carcases condemned ..	—	—	—	2	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	30	—	—	24	6	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	16.90	—	—	8.05	4.65	—
<i>Tuberculosis Only :</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number in spected affected with tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following tables show the amount of meat and other foods condemned during the year :—

UNSOUND FOOD	Surrendered	Seized	Legal Proceedings
Beef (Home killed) lbs.	84	—	—
Beef (Imported) „ ..	—	—	—
Mutton (Home Killed) „ ..	68	—	—
Mutton (Imported) „ ..	—	—	—
Pork (Home Killed) „ ..	—	—	—
Pork (Imported) „ ..	—	—	—
Offal (Home Killed) „ ..	380	—	—
Game „ ..	—	—	—
Poultry „ ..	—	—	—
Fish „ ..	—	—	—
Sausages „ ..	—	—	—
Bacon „ ..	—	—	—
Cheese „ ..	—	—	—
Butter „ ..	—	—	—
Lard „ ..	—	—	—
Eggs, Frozen „ ..	—	—	—

Unsound Food	Surrendered Tins	Weight	Seized	Legal Proceedings
Cooked Meat	17	75 lbs.	—	—
Fruit	6	5	—	—
Vegetables	8	5	—	—
Fish	—	—	—	—
Preserves	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	3	3	—	—

Milk and Dairies

Number of Premises Licensed for the Sale of
Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilized
Milk under the Milk (Special Designation)
(Pasteurised and Sterilized Milk) Regulation,
1949-1954 9

Duties under the above are now carried out by the
County Council. Regular sampling having been made and
co-operation maintained during the year.

Ice Cream

Number of Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the manufacture of Ice Cream	2
Number of Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of pre-packed Ice Cream	33

Food Hygiene Regulations 1960

Inspections of food premises have been carried out during the year. The standard of cleanliness of premises and personnel is satisfactory.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The survey of premises which came within the definitions as set out in the Act continued during the year. At the end of the year 81 premises had been registered.

No accidents were notified during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

Public Supplies

Samples continue to be taken both by the Council and by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, who are the water undertakers for the district.

Including new houses, 20 additional properties were given connections to the mains during the year.

Samples of water for bacteriological examination were taken from the following supplies.

Date	Supply	Public or Private	No. of B. Coli per 100 ml.	Result
7/1/65	Gunnerton	Public	180+	Unsatisfactory
	Reaygarth, Gilsland	Private	180+	Unsatisfactory
	Reaygarth, Gilsland	Private	180+	Unsatisfactory
	Longbyre, Greenhead	Public	0	Satisfactory
18/1/65	Reaygarth, Gilsland	Private	8	Unsatisfactory
	Greenhead	Public	1	Satisfactory
	Meadow Terr., Haltwhistle	Public	17	Unsatisfactory
	Birch Trees	Public	1	Satisfactory
2/2/65	Reaygarth, Gilsland	Private	0	Satisfactory
	Reaygarth, Gilsland	Private	3	Satisfactory
	Thirlwall View, Greenhead	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Meadow Terr., Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
9/2/65	Reaygarth, Gilsland	Private	0	Satisfactory
	Comb Hill, Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Brookside, Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
24/2/65	Post Office, Slaggyford	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Pennine Rd., Halton-Lea-Gate	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Council Offices	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Comb Hill, Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
30/3/65	Meadow Terr., Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Stanley Cresc., Gilsland	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Syke Head, Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Post Office, Slaggyford	Public	0	Satisfactory
29/4/64	Featherstone	Public	1	Satisfactory
	Comb Hill, Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Meadow Terr., Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
	East View, Gilsland	Public	0	Satisfactory
10/5/65	Stanley Crescent, Gilsland	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Council Offices, Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Bank Top Cottages, Greenhead	Private	35	Unsatisfactory
	Comb Hill, Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
24/5/65	Comb Hill, Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
	New High Town, Melkridge	Private	0	Satisfactory
	Pennine Rd., Halton-Lea-Gate	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Waterloo, Greenhead	Public	0	Satisfactory
15/6/65	Milestone Cottage, Greenhead	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Council Offices, Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Comb Hill, Haltwhistle	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Woodhouse Farm, Greenhead	Private	0	Satisfactory
4/8/65	Woodhouse Farm, Greenhead	Private	0	Satisfactory
	Woodhouse Farm, Greenhead	Private	0	Satisfactory

Details of Houses and Population Supplied from Public Mains

Parish	No. of Houses Direct from Mains	Estimated Population	No. of Houses Served by Standpipes	Estimated Population
Bardon Mill ..	89	262	6	17
Coanwood ..	49	157	6	19
Featherstone ..	43	129	8	24
Greenhead ..	62	182	9	26
Haltwhistle ..	1,201	3,650	30	93
Hartleyburn ..	72	223	19	59
Henshaw ..	150	433	24	70
Melkridge ..	47	157	11	36
Plenmellor with Whitfield..	27	86	2	6
Slaggyford ..	65	208	1	3
Thirlwall ..	140	455	6	19
	1,945	5,942	122	372

Sources closed or discontinued — No. of Houses —

New Service provided :—

(a) By Local Authority .. Nil. No. of Houses Nil.
 (b) By Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company .. 20 No. of Houses 20
 (c) By Private Owner .. — No. of Houses —

SEWERAGE

There has been no material change in the position since last year. Two schemes, one to serve the Henshaw and Bardon Mill areas, and the other to serve the Greenhead and Bankfoot areas, are still awaiting Ministry approval.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Refuse collection is carried out by direct labour with two vehicles and six men and has operated satisfactorily during the year. No abnormal sickness amongst employees has occurred.

In August a new 12 cubic yard Karrier Bantam, Fore and Aft Tipper diesel vehicle was brought into service to replace the existing 7 cubic yard petrol driven Bantam Side Loader.

All refuse continues to be disposed of at Plenmeller with the exception of one half day's refuse per week which is tipped at Lambley.

RODENT CONTROL

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACTS, 1949

The Council still employ on a part time basis the retired rodent operative. This arrangement continues to work satisfactorily.

The Council make no charge for treating private properties but a small charge is made for business premises.

The annual return to the Ministry is given in the following table.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				(5) Agri- cultural
	Non-AGRICULTURAL				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc.Council Houses)	(3) All other (incl. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
Number of Properties in Local Authorities District	22	2, 059	477	2,558	343
Number of Properties inspected as a result of :—					
(a) Notification	—	50	9	59	—
(b) Survey under the Act ...	22	—	—	22	—
(c) Otherwise (<i>e.g.</i> when visited primarily for some other purpose	22	42	76	140	—
Total inspections carried out including re-inspections ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	—	20	9	29	—
(b) Mice Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	—	10	—	10	—
Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	12	30	9	51	—
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act :—					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work— (<i>i.e.</i> , Proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a Notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
Number of ‘Block’ control Schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

Local Authority refuse tips are not normally included in the Valuation Roll, however, these have been included in Group I. Rodent control is, of necessity greater at these than at other local authority properties.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961**Part I of the Act.****I.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)**

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority ...	32	5	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	33	5	—	—

II.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	—

Part VII of the Act**OUTWORK****(Sections 110 & 111)****NIL RETURN**

MISCELLANEOUS

Caravan Sites

The position is virtually as it was at the end of last year. There is one major site in the district at Blenkinsopp Castle which accommodates 60 caravans, the other sites which are licensed are for individual caravans only.

Public Swimming Baths

There are no public swimming baths in the area.

Common Lodging House

The one common lodging house in the district which is privately owned, is situated in Haltwhistle and is now the only one between Carlisle and Newcastle.

There are a number of regular occupants but the use by casuals decreases each year.

Regular inspections are made and any defects found are promptly dealt with.

No action has been necessary by the Police during the year.

Places of Entertainment. Circular 120, Ministry of Health

Number of Cinemas — 1.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

There are no pet shops in the area.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

There are no premises in the district registered under this Act.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

No action was necessary under this Act.

Clean Air Act, 1956

No complaints of nuisances were received, and no prosecutions were instituted during the year.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

The above mentioned Act which came into operation on 1st April, 1965, provides that the Local Authority must maintain a register of persons carrying on the business of a Scrap Metal Dealer in their area. This shall apply if the person concerned has a scrap metal store in the area, or has his normal place of residence in the area. A Scrap Metal Dealer is broadly defined as someone buying and selling scrap metal. Dealers must keep records of collection and disposal of scrap.

This Act is carried out in conjunction with the Police and any applications for exemption must also be approved by the Chief of Police for the area.

During the year there have been two applications for registration and licences have been issued for the statutory period of three years.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Housing Inspections	24
Applications for Council houses	83
Welfare	8
House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 (Improvement Grants)	168
Housing General	42
Sanitary Accommodation	11
Drainage	76
Water Supply	73
Caravan Sites	27
Pest and Rodent Control	97
Refuse Collection and Disposal	189
Factories	5
Food Premises	42
Infectious Disease	27
Nuisances	65
Common Lodging House	11
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	57
Miscellaneous	22
Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964	16
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	12
	<hr/>
	1,055

